

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE "JAKE" JACOBSEN

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former Nevada State Senator Lawrence "Jake" Jacobsen, who passed away on Wednesday, July 26, 2006.

Jake, who made his home in Minden, NV, retired from the legislature in 2002 as the longest-serving legislator in Nevada history, having served 16 years in the Assembly and 24 in the Senate. Over his long and distinguished career, Jake must have been proudest of his work on behalf of the state's veterans and the Department of Corrections honor camp system, and his fight for preservation of the Stewart Indian School and Marlette Lake. Jake was also a volunteer firefighter in Carson Valley for more than 50 years, and has fought several fires side-by-side with Forest Service personnel. As president of the Minden Engine Company for 25 years and a lawmaker for 40 years, Jake has supported firefighting and preserved funding for fire crews.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of former state Senator Lawrence "Jake" Jacobsen. In his long and distinguished career as a legislator in the State Senate he touched countless lives. He was a good friend, one whom I had the pleasure of serving with for 8 years. He will be greatly missed by all the citizens of Nevada.

### THE AVAILABILITY OF AVIAN FLU RESEARCH DATA

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I sent the attached letter along with my colleagues to the Secretary of Health and Human Services regarding avian flu data on July 6, 2006.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, July 6, 2006.

Mr. MIKE LEAVITT,  
Secretary, Department of Health and Human  
Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY LEAVITT: As the looming threat of a pandemic flu continues, the need to take cost effective and time-saving steps to boost our capacity and response speed is vital. The free flow of information, in particular, can accelerate research, and the development of vaccines, saving lives. In the case of Avian Flu, the very properties we fear the most—the ease with which the virus is transmitted and its ability to kill its host—are encoded in the virus' genome. Yet the genetic sequences are currently only immediately available to a select group of researchers, a practice which is hampering and delaying our ability to respond to the threat of the pandemic influenza. We will need as many scientific eyes as possible examining the problem.

Though an adequate response to a future pandemic will require the cooperation of all involved countries, the US should show leadership commensurate with its expertise and wealth. We therefore applaud your request of the World Health Assembly, the decision making body of the World Health Organization, that they "pledge with me to abide by four principles of pandemic preparedness: Transparency, rapid reporting, data sharing, and scientific cooperation."

We ask that you set these principles into motion by requiring data from HHS-funded research on avian influenza and genetic sequences, in particular, to be promptly deposited in a publicly accessible repository such as GenBank, the sequence database of the National Institutes of Health. Researchers for the Human Genome Project published their sequences in a public database within 24 hours. Calls for the immediate deposition of sequence data have come from some of the most renowned scientists in the world in the field of avian influenza.

Some scientists and countries are reluctant to release their genetic and clinical data for fear of loss of scientific credit or that the information will be used to create a technology, such as a vaccine, that will then be priced out of their reach. In particular, certain countries are refusing to release their sequences. Unfortunately, those countries are reported to include several current or past hot spots for H5N1. These concerns can be satisfied. There are already public databases holding tens of thousands of genetic sequences that have intellectual property protections in place to prevent just such problems. While many countries may have policies in place to prevent the open sharing of such information, stressing the importance of rapid response worldwide is vital.

In the event of a pandemic, the public will need to be able to trust that their government and scientists are acting with the transparency, speed and cooperation you requested. The United States can take this opportunity to take on a critical leadership role.

Sincerely,  
Dennis J. Kucinich, Sheila Jackson-Lee,  
Jim McDermott, John Conyers, Jr.,  
Wayne T. Gilchrest, Tammy Baldwin,  
Diana DeGette, Ellen O. Tauscher,  
Lynn C. Woolsey, John W. Olver, Major  
R. Owens, Barbara Lee, Dale E. Kildee,  
William J. Jefferson, Madeleine Z.  
Bordallo, Bernie Sanders.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be on the House floor for rollcall votes 412 and 413. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on both votes.

### HONORING CHANNEL LOGISTICS, LLC

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and honor Channel Logistics, LLC for their recent achievement in maritime domain and seaport security.

On April 1, 2006, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers presented their Annual Corporate Innovation Award to Channel Logistics, LLC during the Institute's annual awards dinner in Philadelphia. The award recognizes the company's development of the Computer Assisted Threat Evaluation System. This system evaluates potential maritime and port security threats among ships, crew and cargo entering our ports. It is able to evaluate threats by analyzing information contained within maritime databases through the processes of data fusion, pattern and choke point mapping.

This technology plays an important role in uncovering possible terrorist threats to our vulnerable maritime and port infrastructures. I am proud that Camden, NJ-based Channel Logistics, LLC is a leader in developing innovative technologies designed to secure our country and ports, and I congratulate them on receiving the IEEE's distinguished Annual Corporate Innovation Award.

### HONORING BOB BRAUER

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and work of Robert Brauer of Berkeley, CA. A visionary and courageous public servant, Bob has dedicated his life to serving his community and his country. Bob's unwavering commitment to social justice has inspired me and many others to dedicate our lives to this struggle, and has impacted the lives of countless others in California's 9th Congressional District and across our country. This month Bob "retires" after a lifetime of working for the advancement of a more just and equitable society for us all, and today I join our entire community in saluting him for his public exemplary service.

Bob's dedication to public service has been evident since he was a young adult. After graduating in 1960 from the University of California, Berkeley, where he met his wife Penny, Bob was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. He was stationed in El Paso, TX, in the Strategic Air Command, and served there until 1963 when he left the Air Force as a Captain.

Upon completion of his service in the Air Force, Bob and his family, which by then included his wife, a son, and two young daughters, returned to Berkeley, CA, where he began a new job as an Assistant Personnel

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.